

Art Unit: 2839

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. An electrical connector comprising:
a housing; and
a substantially rectangular case made of a metal sheet and enclosing said housing, said substantially rectangular case having a front opening and including:
at least one connection portion provided on a side of a lower surface of said substantially rectangular case for connection with a corresponding circuit trace of a circuit board;
a resilient lock piece provided between an upper surface and said lower surface of said substantially rectangular case and engaging a mating connector; and
a pair of shield pieces provided between said upper and lower surfaces and brought into contact with a shield case of said mating connector, wherein
said upper surface is made flat,
said resilient lock piece has a bending portion at said front opening of said substantially rectangular case, which is bend from said lower surface toward an inner portion of said substantially rectangular case, and
said shield pieces are provided on opposite sides of said resilient lock piece so as to extend in parallel to said resilient lock piece from said bending portion toward said inner portion and then toward said front opening of said substantially rectangular case in substantially the same plane as that of said resilient lock piece.

Art Unit: 2839

2. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said upper surface has a width smaller than that of said lower surface.

3. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said substantially rectangular case is made by bending a metal sheet around an axis of said substantially rectangular case or a plugging direction of said mating connector and has a joint of edges of said metal sheet in said upper surface.

4. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 3, wherein said joint is not present in a center of said upper surface.

5. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said substantially rectangular case is made by bending a metal sheet around an axis of said substantially rectangular case or a plugging directing of said mating connector and has a joint of edges of said metal sheet in a side surface thereof.

6. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein said bend portion has a curvature.

7. (original) The electrical connector according to one of claims 1-5, wherein said substantially rectangular case has a lower opening in at least part of said lower surface to accommodate a bottom section of said housing.

8. (currently amended) The electrical connector according to one of claims 1-5 [[and 7]], wherein said substantially rectangular case has a projection portion extending forwardly from part of an edge of said front opening.

9. (original) The electrical connector according to claim 1, 5, or 6, wherein a lower side of said bent

Art Unit: 2839

portion of said resilient lock piece is positioned lower than that of a plane of said housing fixed to said circuit board.